STATE SENATOR - DEBORAH CHERRY - 26TH DISTRICT

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Sen. Cherry Announces Career Development Grants for The Disability **Network in Flint**

(LANSING)—State Senator Deb Cherry (D-Burton) announced today that The Disability Network in Flint has been awarded \$299,468 in grants from the Michigan Department of Career Development (MDCD).

"The Disability Network is an integral part of our community, providing information, advocacy and support for people with disabilities throughout Genesee County," said Cherry. "These grants will help Flint area residents with disabilities live more independently and successfully enter the workforce."

The Disability Network is a nonprofit advocacy organization operated by and for people with disabilities. It is part of a state and national network of federally designated non-residential Centers for Independent Living (CIL's). The grants will enable the center to maintain and expand information and supports that it offers throughout Genesee County.

Michigan Rehabilitation Services (MRS), a division of MDCD, collaborates with community organizations such as The Disability Network in a mutual goal of assisting Michigan residents with disabilities into the workforce. Their offices throughout the state provide direct job preparation and placement services for persons with disabilities.

The Disability Network is one of 15 organizations in the state receiving independent living grants this fall. The funding for these grants is provided from federal and state funds under the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, and under state legislation.

Senator Cherry is a member of the Senate Appropriations Committee, and is Minority Vice Chair of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Higher Education, and the subcommittee on Community Health.

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